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STREET CLEANING BY CITIZENS.

When matters get to such a pitch that

auxiliary organizations of citizens are re-

quired in order to make even a show of

having the city streets cleaned, the time has

come for prompt and decisive action on the

part of responsible city officials. That such

a time has come in New York is made evi-

dence by the formation of the Street-Cleaning

Society and the promulgation of that

organization's pledges. These pledges are,

as a matter of fact, little more than agree-

ments on the part of householders to obey

the ordinances regarding ash-barrels and

garbage, which are presumably meant to

be obeyed with or without pledge. But the

significance of such agreements and of the

formation of the Society spreading their

forth is a grave one.

Practically it means that a great city

Department, with a chief officer and subor-

dinates and laborers and all the appur-

tenances required, drawing constantly from

the city the money for salaries, wages and

other expenses, all with the idea that

it has duty to perform, is either

so shiftless, or so inefficient, or so

deliberately negligent that citizens are

forced to organize and take steps, person-

ally, towards the performance of at least

some part of that Department's work. Such

a state of affairs is disgraceful to the city

and an outrage upon the taxpayers. It has

been allowed to exist too long already. The

demand of the hour is that it shall continue

no further.

Time is past for the exercise of lenity in

any form. The moment for action is come.

Commissioner BRANTIS either can or cannot

clean the streets. If he cannot, either he is

a failure or his office is a blank, so far

as utility goes. In any case, the people

are paying for street cleaning which they

do not get. They will look to see that this

wrong is righted. They have the inalien-

able right to the service for which their

taxes pay.

THE INTERDICTION HELLO.

Nothing is more beautiful than to see

Nature leap into the breach and by her

own sweet spontaneity compass at once

some nascent want. When the first bee

stung the first man he uttered unpremed-

itatedly "Aow!" The first man who

approached a telephone to wake up the

fellow at the other end said "Hi-lo!" by

the same natural impulse. Everybody has

helioid ever since as the introduction to

telephonic communication.

And now in the New York Telephone Ex-

change in Detroit which have stopped the

"Hello!" Forbidden it!

The dear helling girls have had other

restrictions imposed upon them, all more

or less violent, but none so beyond natural

powers as this. They may not chew gum

during working hours, nor may they have

private guests with each other over the

phone. These are hard, yes. Impossi-

ble, no.

The result will be that the good girls will

contract a bad habit of speech, and the

naughty girls will be openly inordinate.

The good girl will bounce to the phone,

say "Hi-lo!" and then stop. She will be

the victim to her desire to obey.

It is no wonder that they must say

"Hello!" at the phone or else earn their

living at something else which isn't so

much of a strain on them. Let the Com-

pany recall its cruel, unnatural ukase.

The voice of nature demands the telephonic

"Hello!"

RUDINI'S TIME TO FADE.

The controversy with Italy over the New

Orleans affair, at first quite exciting, later

rather interesting, and finally somewhat

amusing, has now come down to the edge

of the ridiculous. M. RUDINI, realizing

that he was impressing nobody over here,

and was, in fact, making his case look

pitifully weak to all outside nations,

sought to cover his official intimation that

he had had confidence in the Italian Gov-

ernment by Mr. BLAINE had been guilty of

undiplomatic conduct in making public

use of a telegram which, RUDINI asserted,

was communicated to him in confidence.

Without replying directly to the im-

pudent RUDINI, Mr. BLAINE cables to Minister

FORSTER at Rome his dignified denial of this

charge, and the information that he has

been furnished by mail proofs of its falsity.

If RUDINI has half as much good sense as

he has had judgment, he will let the matter

rest before his accumulation of errors has

become mountainous.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art will

open to-day for the summer. Several no-

table additions have been made to its treas-

ure, including the Braxton Ives collection

of Japanese swords and several fine paint-

ings and pieces of sculpture. The most de-

scribable announcement to be made about the

Metropolitan, however, will be that its

doors will be thrown open to the people on

Sunday. The delay in accomplishing this

goal is almost shameful.

Nothing is older than Death and still

there are no more effective dramatic situa-

tions than those which the remorseless

reaper of men creates by the awing of his

scythe. The sudden death of CHARLES

FRATT, one of the Standard Oil million-

aires, yesterday evening, was certainly



THE PATENT TOWEL-RACK MAN.

one. He was stricken down and

died a few hours afterwards in his

office. Four Standard Oil Companies

switched over his remains while they were

detained for five hours before the permit

for their removal could be secured. Then

the body of the man worth millions was

taken in a wagon, at midnight, over the

Bridge which he had crossed full of plans

and business in the morning. Mr. FRATT

had used his wealth benevolently and

wisely.

The autopsy on the body of Dr. BOWELL

has shown two things of comfort. One,

that the physicians had rightly located the

work, which was found in the lower bifur-

cation of the left bronchial tube, where they

said it was. The other, that even had in-

operation followed that of Wednesday

Dr. BOWELL'S life could not have been

saved. The autopsy, therefore, gives

pleasing confirmation of the medical skill

brought to bear on the case, while every one

will be glad that the brave man whose

superb physical powers were surpassed by

his splendid courage was spared the tortures

of a useless operation. The memory of his

fortitude is a glorious monument as it is.

The May-day trouble at Fourmies, where

nine people were killed by the soldiers, has

consequences growing more and more

grave. The district is wildly excited and

more troops have been hurried to the scene.

M. CONSTANT, Minister of the Interior, ex-

plaining the affair to the French Deputies

yesterday, was interrupted by the exclaima-

tion of "Murderer" from a Deputy who

had afterwards to be removed from the

Chamber.

The American Trotting Association has

before it the case of Nelson, the great

record-holding stallion now under the ban

of the National Association because of his

owner's alleged crookedness. The stallion

should be allowed to trot again. He is not

responsible for what a man has done.

Collector EINHART doesn't know what to

do when an urn arrives in which the ashes

of an individual cremated in Vienna are

sealed. The law demands its unsealing.

The Collector is the last man to do an un-

feeling thing, but there seems no escape

from duty in this matter.

An infant child, confined and about to be

buried, interrupted the obsequies by a re-

turn to life. It was transferred to its

cradle, and may live to tell of its escape to

its grandchildren. May the child never live

to regret its deferred burial.

At the annual meeting of the Grant Monu-

ment Association new life was infused into

that body by the starting of a new fund, to

which five gentlemen contributed each

\$10,000. Now let these worthies find imi-

tators and all will go well.

The arrest yesterday of the former Presi-

dent and cashier of the North River Bank

on a charge of signing false quarterly

reports is a step in the right direction. There

is too much crooked work in our banking

system.

Both parties to the agreement are to be

congratulated on the acceptance by the

National Democratic Committee of perma-

nent headquarters with the Democratic

Club at 617 Fifth avenue.

A committee of manufacturers is to dis-

cuss the American piano with a view

to establishing a standard. Dwellers in

flat-houses will urge that they make it as

low as possible.

The waitresses in an uptown restaurant

have struck. They want more pay, shorter

hours of work and less cash. Their de-

mands do not seem unreasonable.

Secretary SPAULDING, of the Treasury

Department, is authority for the statement

that sugar will remain cheap in spite of the

Truce.

Col. GILLIBERT, of the United States En-

gineering Corps, says we cannot be bom-

arded from Sandy Hook. This is encour-

aging.

SPOTLETS.

Somebody says there is gold in the Kook

tribe.

Why not get up a coaching display at the

colleges? There are plenty of coaches.

Now that Frank W. has given up work, he

should change his name to Fraz.

Many of our best ball-players are back-sliders

when their object is a base one.

Returned to Mother Earth, all skin and bones,

the remains of little Tommy Jones.

Who can say what a splendid little humbug,

Thro' taking too much taffy on his stomach,

Minneapolis Tribune.

Some men are too small to be belittled.

The ball fraternity are perfectionists. Don't they

look out for the home plate?

"What an awful liar he must have been!" said

an onlooker, as he read a tabloid,

"Even his remains lie."

A large dry-goods establishment is like a ship, it

is so full of sales.

Marion Manola's marriage with Jack Mason was

a new give away. At least the onlookers say,

"New give away."

WORLDINGS.

Guy de Maupassant, the French author, is a man

of forty-one and a hypocrite. In manner

he is sarcastic and brusque, even towards women.

In his letters he is a perfect little humbug.

Although an English